

BENJAMIN BROOKS
Legislative District 10
Baltimore County

CHIEF DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Economic Matters Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Public Utilities

Alcoholic Beverages

Property and Casualty Insurance



The Maryland House of Delegates

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Annapolis Office
The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 151
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3352 · 301-858-3352
800-492-7122 Ext. 3352
Fax 410-841-3132 · 301-858-3132
Benjamin.Brooks@house.state.md.us

District Office
8419 Liberty Road, Suite B
Windsor Mill, Maryland 21244-3133
410-496-4037

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB350
UNDERGROUND FACILITIES DAMAGE PREVENTION – ENFORCEMENT**

Economic Matters Committee
February 3, 2022

Chair Wilson, Vice-Chair Crosby and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you on HB350, Underground Facilities Damage Prevention – Enforcement. This emergency bill authorizes the Maryland Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Authority to impose additional punitive measures when a person fails to notify the one-call system before performing excavation or demolition in the State or violates any other requirement related to excavation and demolition. Specifically, instead of or in addition to assessing a civil penalty pursuant to current law, the authority may (1) require a person to participate in damage prevention training or implement procedures to mitigate the likelihood of damage to underground facilities or (2) impose other similar measures.

HB350 seeks to merely remedy a housekeeping measure to correct a unintentional clerical error made during the 2020 legislative session, that inadvertently removed the original damage prevention training language in the Maryland Underground Facilities Damage Prevention Authority statute. That provision provides the Authority, other remedy options rather than imposing a civil penalty.

Introducing as an emergency bill allows the provision to be immediately utilized by the Authority without further delay.

For these reasons, I am requesting a favorable report.

With kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benjamin T. Brooks".

Benjamin Brooks